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PERMANENT WILD LIFE PROTECTION FUND

Trustees

WILLIAM T. HORNADAY, CLARK WILLIAMS, JAMES H. PERKINS

Bulletin No. 10 September 1, 1922

FOR THE INFORMATION OF THE PEOPLE OF SOUTH AFRICA

THE VANISHING GAME OF SOUTH AFRICA

A WARNING AND AN APPEAL

By

WILLIAM T. HORNADAY, Sc. D., A. M.

Director of the New York Zoological Park

AND

ALWIN K. HAAGNER, Sc. D.

Director of the National Zoological Gardens of South Africa

With translations by DR. A. A. SCHOCH, Pretoria, and R. C. ROSSER, of the National Bank of South Africa, New York

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ONE DAY'S SLAUGHTER ON THE HIGH VELD

Black Gnu, Blesbok and Springbuck.

Note the number of females and young of each species. No supply of game can long withstand such slaughter as this.

'N-GEVOLG VAN SLEGS EEN DAG SE JAG

Swart Wildebeeste, Blesbokke en Springbokke.

Let vooral op die getal ooie en jong bokke van elke soort. Geen hoeveelheid wild kan bestaan onder sulke slagting.

Dedicated to

EDWARD NORTH BUXTON, ESQ.,

Consistent and persistent defender of the
vanishing game of Africa
and
Chairman of the Society for the Preservation
of the Fauna of the British Empire

A BONTEBOK IN THE NEW YORK ZOOLOGICAL PARK

This beautiful antelope once very numerous now is so nearly extinct that only 200 individuals remain alive, of which 25 may be killed each year for sport!

'N BONTBOK IN DIE DIERETUIN VAN NEW YORK

...hierde diersoort was daar duisende, nou is daar slegs 200 waarvan ongeveer 25 elke jaar dood geskiet word.

THE EXTERMINATION OF SOUTH AFRICA'S FINEST GAME

A WARNING FROM FRIENDS ACROSS THE SEA

By WILLIAM T. HORNADAY.

Honorary Member of the British Society for the Preservation of the Fauna of the Empire; Trustee Permanent Wild Life Protection Fund of America.

IF our advices are correct, as we believe them to be, one of the after-effects in South Africa of the German War is a decided falling off in the business of wild life protection. The spirit of game conservation that existed in that country previous to the war, and was reflected annually in the reports of many game protecting organizations, seems to have grown lukewarm.

The wild life defenders of New York and London have received from South Africa many reports and expressions of regret and alarm concerning recent killings of big game. Some of these reports have caused American zoologists and sportsmen grave concern. Under the circumstances it seems to be our duty to send to the people of South Africa a solemn warning against making the mistakes in game slaughter that in the past have been made in America, and which now are permanent sources of regret and shame.

The awful deadliness of modern firearms, the fatal facilities in game pursuit that the deadly automobile now affords, and the wicked and savage heedlessness of man toward the rights of wild game and our own posterity, are causes for profound alarm. At all hazards we will sound, in Africa, this warning note; and then if the people of South Africa deliberately and with wide open

eyes decide to let their most grand and beautiful game species be exterminated in a brief period, the curses of posterity will be theirs, and the blame will not be ours.

THE ZULULAND MASSACRE OF GAME.

The news of the great game slaughter in Zululand (Natal), in 1920, severely jarred the wild life conservationists of the world. The event was an open and aboveboard organized massacre, which involved the immediate slaughter of a great mass of zebras and other large game, including six white rhinoceroses out of the existing thirty still found south of the equator. This was executed with great cruelty, as a number of the men employed were inexperienced as hunters, with the result that innumerable of these magnificent animals were fired upon at any distance and wounded in such a manner that they died a lingering and painful death. The explanation given for this slaughter was to attempt to put a stop to the damage done by the tse-tse fly amongst the cattle. However, the great majority of the men who took part in this drive hunt came from the towns and villages, and had not the slightest interest in the cattle or in farming in the district. Their only object was to kill everything which came before them. Apart from this it looks doubtful whether such wholesale butchery of game can be of any practical use. So much is certain. The tse-tse fly is still found there to-day, as it was before the drive, and it is highly probable that the scattering of the game carried the fly to localities where before it has not been found.

PRESERVATION AND SLAUGHTER OF GAME ON SOUTH AFRICAN FARMS.

Throughout the past twenty years it has been well known to American and British zoologists and sportsmen that many of the Boer farmers of South Africa were zealously and successfully preserving on their farms many

valuable herds of game that otherwise would have been exterminated. To this form of valuable service to the world we understand that we owe today the existence of such priceless species as the Mountain Zebra, Bontebok, Blesbok, and others equally important. We pay our compliments, and we extend our salutations to all the humane and public-spirited men who have rendered these services to zoology. We wish that all the game-inhabited farms of the earth were theirs!

But now we come to a new and less pleasing situation.

The alarming disappearance of African game has reduced some species to points so low that the farmers' new privilege of free-shooting on unfenced farms has become a serious menace to the remnants of game. This free-killing privilege has all along extended to the farmers' friends; and the result easily can be imagined.

The introduction of game laws has had little effect in altering this state of affairs. Who can enforce the laws on large private farms, if the owner himself will not do so?

We are informed that *the supply of game can no longer withstand this awful drain!*

Are the people of South Africa so hard pressed for food that they need to slaughter their most wonderful and beautiful wild animals to keep the Hunger Wolf from the door?

The last idea is absurd. It is well known that food is abundant in South Africa. This is true of all properly governed agricultural and grazing areas throughout the world. These facts being true, there is no excuse whatever for the wicked slaughter of Kudu, Sable Antelope, Roan, Eland, Hartebeest, Waterbuck, Reedbuck, Rhebuck, and Bontebok that now is proceeding. Think of the killing each year of 12½ per cent of the remaining remnant of 200 Bontebok!

New conditions demand new measures. The automobile is now as deadly to the game as the rifles that they carry

so swiftly to the game-lands from the centers of population. Unless the brakes are put on, every farmer who permits free shooting soon will see the end of his game. The existing privilege regarding unfenced farms should at once be withdrawn or else greatly restricted, and the farmers who have game to be saved are the very men who should propose it, and see that the idea is carried into effect.

WASTE OF VALUABLE GAME BY NATIVES.

In his warning article Dr. Haagner declares that the wanton waste of game by natives now has become a very serious factor in the preservation of South African game. Will the white population of the Union permit the black population to slaughter game, in season and out of season, so long as any game remains? Are the people of South Africa powerless to regulate, repress, and at times entirely forbid game-killing by natives? Have the blacks become so strong that they cannot reasonably be controlled?

With all their shortcomings the people of the United States of America never have permitted our Indians to exterminate our game. The white American may be something of a waster himself, but he draws the line at wholesale or defiant waste by Indians.

In America the principle has been laid down, and now is fairly established, that an Indian or other native has no more an inherent right to the wild game of a wild country than he has to its minerals, its water power and its forests. No white man in his senses will permit Indians, or any other natives, to burn down forests merely for game-driving or amusement. The idea is preposterous. Should a stock of fine—though vanishing—game animals be regarded as any less of an asset, any less of a trust to be guarded, than timber? By no means.

The people of South Africa must arouse, and take effective measures to regulate or prohibit the killing of game by natives. The waste of a once great fauna has gone far enough.

In Africa, as in America, a great many men are *not to be trusted with free-hunting privileges!* Both in Africa and in America there are too many farmers who do not admire or love beautiful wild animals,—until they are killed, skinned and served on the table, or converted into biltong. There are too many men who are reckless in the killing of game, and who simply WILL NOT conserve until they are forced by statute law to do so. We are told that now the men of this class have become *a scourge to the game of Africa,* just as they long have been in America. The non-conserving farmers shoot, not wisely but too well; they freely permit their friends to shoot and the game is going down and out.

The question now is: Will the good game-protecting farmers of the Transvaal give up their free-shooting privileges for the sake of stopping the unjustifiable excess killing that is done by men who are not conservers of their game? It can not be possible that the old farmers of the Transvaal have no sentimental interest in the remnants of the big game species that furnished them so much sport and so much good food in the golden days of their youth, when the veldt was swarming with wild animals.

Nor does it seem possible that the young farmers who have heard so many thrilling stories of good hunting in the early days can now be utterly indifferent to the fate of the remaining Kudu, Inyala, Eland, Roan and Sable Antelope. Where do the young farmers of the Transvaal stand toward the game? What shall it be for them —extermination or preservation? If it is the latter, then some vigorous measures must at once be formulated and made effective.

BURCHELL ZEBRA

Prominent type of a large group. Once believed to be extinct, but the few surviving specimens are being carefully bred in zoological gardens to restore it to the fauna of South Africa.

"BURCHELL ZEBRA" KWAGGA

Dit het eens op 'n tijd gelijk of hierde diersoort totaal uitgeroei was. Die paar orrhlijwende kwaggas is in dieretuine

SLAUGHTER OF GAME IN PORTUGUESE TERRITORY.

During the years 1920 and 1921, certain Portuguese Territory within easy reach of the Transvaal has suffered from hunters coming from without, animated by the recently revived craze for game slaughter that has broken out among a certain class of white South Africans. In June, 1921, two large hunting parties, each having from 10 to 15 rifles and many wagons, went in along the Rhodesian border. Unfortunately in this area there exists one of the few stations of the very rare Inyala Antelope, and *one of the last refuges of the Southern Eland in South Africa.* The Portuguese are, alas, not very much concerned about their fauna, and in this particular area it is said that the officials in charge, on receipt of the hunting license fee, were content to leave the hunting parties practically unhampered. *One of our correspondents tells us that between June and August, 1921, one of those parties shot about 250 head, mostly Sable Antelope and Inyala, and the other party shot over 300 Sable, Inyala and Eland.*

Consider now the beautiful *Sable Antelope, Inyala* and *Eland* being slaughtered by wholesale methods, *for hides and biltong!*

Do the people of South Africa feel satisfied with this killing record, and the prospect of its continuance?

If they are displeased with this commercial extermination, what will they do about it?

In another article herein, by Dr. A. K. Haagner, Director of the National Zoological Gardens of South Africa, there appears much fresh and valuable information regarding certain important and beautiful species of "Vanishing South African Game." It shows that the finest remaining antelopes of South Africa—the Inyala, Bontebok, Black Wildebeest, Vaal Rhebuck and the Eland are on the

road to Oblivion. Nothing but quick, energetic and *drastic* action can or will save them to the fauna of their native land.

If they are permitted to go into the discard, the people of South Africa never will regret it but once, and that will be—*forever!* Once those species are lost they NEVER can be brought back. If you want another Manchuria, a lifeless and uninteresting waste, then let things go as they are going, and soon you will attain it.

No wild animal life ever was too abundant to be exterminated by man. Remember the fate of the American Bison and Passenger Pigeon in America and the Quagga and Blaubok in South Africa. Give your children and grandchildren a chance to see some African animals *somewhere else than in museums!* A few more years of Roan and Sable Antelope shooting may make a fatal difference in the permanent preservation of those species.

The only right course to pursue is to absolutely prohibit all shooting of all species that are threatened with extermination. Meanwhile, the situation must be studied, and measures devised and enacted into law to permit the shooting of *male* animals where the game is sufficiently abundant to endure it without decrease, and to protect all other animals in other areas.

When game is rapidly nearing extinction, mild and gentle measures of protection are utterly useless. More than this, they are worse than useless; because they deceive good citizens into thinking that the game is being saved when it is not!

Weak and half-way measures are worse than none.

If the majority of the people of South Africa mean to exterminate all their game, let them go to it with their eyes open. The confirmed butcher is willing to exterminate any species for the profit of the day and hour.

Such men are dangerous citizens, and their likes and dislikes must not be permitted to stand in the way.

Do you wish to rob your sons and grandsons of their rightful heritage of game and sport?

Do you intend to turn over to your children a continent that, like Manchuria, is a barren and lifeless waste?

It cannot be possible. Even the most heedless man wishes that his children shall have a square deal with the resources of nature.

THE SAVING OF YOUR GAME IS YOUR BUSINESS.

The game of a state or province is the property of *all* the people, not of a privileged class. It is for *the majority of the people* as a whole to say whether their game shall be saved or exterminated!

Humane people are opposed to the reckless and unreasonable slaughter of wild life. Above all they are opposed to the *extermination of valuable species.* The majority of the people of South Africa are humane—are they not?

If history and precedents mean anything, the people of South Africa now must either conserve their game or permit it to be exterminated. Which shall it be? It seems that the situation demands at this time a universal 3-year close season on all scarce game, from the Zambesi River to Cape Town—and *nothing less!* A wild-animal nuisance clause should be enacted at the same time, to provide for the abatement of animal pests, by strict regulations issued by the highest authorities. But first, however, every charge against wild animals must be proven by good evidence before a verdict of guilty is admissible.

The sentiment of the people as a whole needs to be mobilized for game protection and law enforcement.

Without it, little can be accomplished. The people of South Africa are no longer on the frontier of civilization. Their flocks and herds have arrived, and *the people can subsist excellently without wild meat.*

The time to adopt new and far-reaching measures is NOW. A species killed down to the point of extinction very rarely is brought back, even under protection. The time to conserve is while something remains to conserve. In these days of swiftly moving events, delays are dangerous. *The automobile is here, and it is more deadly than the rifles themselves.* In finding the game, and bringing it under fire, the automobile is merciless.

Act NOW, before it is entirely TOO LATE!

MOUNTAIN ZEBRA OF CAPE COLONY

But for wise and determined protection, this beautiful species now would be extinct.

BERG SEBRA VAN DIE KAAP KOLONIE

As 'n gevolg van die strengste beskerming is hierde diersoort nog nie helemaal uitgeroei.

UITROEIING VAN SUIDAFRIKA SE PRAGTIGE WILD

'N WAARSKUWING DEUR OORSEESE VRIENDE

Deur William T. Hornaday, ScD.
Direkteur van die New York Zoological Park.

Erelid van die Britse Gennotskap tot Beskerming van die Dierewereld in die Britse Ryk; Kurateur van die Permanent Wild Life Protection Fund van Amerika.

As ons goed ingelig is—en ons glo dat dit die geval is,—dan lyk dit of in Suid Afrika een van die gevolge van die Duitse oorloog is 'n aanmerkelike agteruitgang van die werksaamhede tot beskerming van wilde diere. Die gees van wildbeskerming wat voor die oorlog in daardie land geheers het en wat jaarliks tot uitdrukking gekom het in die berigte van vele wildbeskermings-liggame, die skyn verswak te wees.

Die voorstanders van beskerming van wilde diere in New York en London het uit Suid Afrika vele berigte ontvang wat uitdrukking gee aan spyt en ontsteltenis oor die slagting wat onlangs onder die grootwild aangerig werd. Sommige van die berigte het by die Amerikaanse soologe en jagters ernstige bekommernis verwek. Dit kom my voor dat dit onder die omstandighede ons plig is om aan die volk van Suid Afrika 'n woord van ernstige waarskuwing toe te roep, om tog nie die selfde foute te begaan met betrekking tot wild-verdelging, wat in die verlede in Amerika begaan is, en wat nou vir ons 'n blywende bron van spyt en skaamte vorm.

Die verskrikkelike dodelikheid van die moderne vuurwapens, die noodlottige fasiliteite wat die motorkar bied by die agtervolging van wild, en die roekelose, barbaarse

A GREATER KUDU FAMILY
One of the most beautiful antelopes of the world. From a water color drawing by Norman Lighton.

BEHORENDE TOT DIE GROOTERE KOEDOE DIERSOORT
Van 'n waterkleur tekening deur Norman Lighton. Een van die skoonste wildsorte in die wereld.

gevoelloosheid van die mens teenoor wilde diere en die regte van onse eie nageslag, gee aanleiding tot diepe ontsteltenis. Ons moet tot elke prys in Afrika heirdie waarskuwing verhef; en as die Volk van Suid Afrika nogtans met voorbedagte rade en met ope oge besluit om hulle onvergelykelik-pragtige wildsoorte in korte tyd te laat verdelg, dan sal die vloek van die nageslag op hulle rus en geen verwyt sal op ons kan val.

DIE SLAGTING VAN WILD IN SOELOELAND.

Die berig van die grote wildslagting in Soeloeland in 1920 het in die hele wereld 'n skok uitgeoefen op die beskermers van wilde diere. Daardie gebeurtenis was 'n openlik en op grote skaal georganiseerde slagting wat ten gevolge had die verdelging van 'n groot aantal stuks grootwild (waaronder ses uit die dertig wit renosters—al wat suidelik van die ekwator nog bestaan) met weersinwekkende wreedheid, deurdat 'n menigte skutters, waarvan die meeste geen oefening as jagters had, toegelaat werd om tallose van daardie pragtige diere op enige distansie te beskiet en te kwes en op die wyse 'n langsame martelende dood tegemoet te dryf. Dit werd beweer dat hierdie slagting aagerig werd om die verwoestinge van die "tsetse vlieg" onder die vee te keer. Maar die grote meerderheid van die persone wat aan daardie dryfjag deelgeneem het, die het uit die stede en dorpe gekomen was mense wat nie die minste belang by die vee of boerdery in die betrokke streek had. Hulle enigste belang was dus: doodmaak net wat voorkom. Buitendien lyk dit meer dan twyfelagtig of dergelyke wildslagtinge van enige nut kan wees. So veel is seker dat die tsetse-vlieg daar vandag nog voorkom, net soals voor die dryfjag, en dat die wild wat uitmekaar gejaag is hoogs waarskynlik die vlieg saamgeneem het na streke waar hy eers nie was nie.

BESKERMING EN UITROEIING VAN WILD OP SUIDAFRIKAANSE PLASE.

Gedurende die laaste twintig jaar was dit aan Amerikaanse en Engelse soologe en jagters welbekend, dat vele Afrikanerboere in Suidafrika met ywer en sukses op hulle plase vele waardevolle troppe wild beskerm het, wat anders uitgeroei sou geword het. Aan hierdie grote diens wat hulle aan die wereld bewys het, dank ons vandag, na ek verneem, die voortbestaan van sulke onskatbare diersoorte as die berg-sebra, bontebok, swart wildebees en blesbok. Aan al daardie manne wat met ver—siende blik en pliggevoel teenoor die dierewereld sowel als teenoor die nageslag aan die soologie daardie dienste bewys het, breng ons hiermee hulde! Ons wens dat alle wildhoudende plase in die wereld aan hulle toebehoor!

Maar nou kom ons op 'n ander en minder bevredigende onderwerp.

Die sorgwekkende agteruitgang van die Afrikaanse wild maak die voorreg van die ou-tydse boer om vry en te eniger tyd op sy eie grond te skiet, tot 'n ernstige gevaar vir die weinig wild wat nog oorbly. Hierdie skietvryheid het die boer dan nog meestal goed-geefs ook aan sy vriende toegeken, met noodlottige gevolge vir die wild. Die invoering van die wild-wette het hierin gewoonlik maar weinig verandering gebreng; want wie sal die wet op 'n grote private plaas handhaaf, as die eienaar self dit nie wil doen nie?

Volgens vertroubare berigte kan die teenwoordige wildvoorraad daardie toestaand nie meer verdra nie.

Is die volk van Suidafrika dan so in die nood dat hulle hulle pragtige, wonderbare wild-diere moet verdelg om nie te verhonger nie?

Dit kan tog nie wees nie! Elkeen weet dat kos volop is in Suidafrika, net as in alle andere behoorlik geregeerde

lande in die wereld waar landbou en veeteelt heers. Daar is dus geen rede waarom julle koedoe, swart-witpens, baster-gems-bok, hartebees, waterbok, rooibok, reebok en talryke andere diersoorte van julle plase moet verdwyn.

Nuwe toestande vereis nuwe regelinge. Die motorkar, byvoorbeeld, is nou net so dodelik vir die wild as die geweer wat hy so snel uit die bewoonde streke na die wild-veld dra. As die briek nie aangedraai word nie, dan sal die boer wat vry skiet en laat skiet al spoedig sy wild sien verdwyn. Die boere wat nog wild op hulle plase het is juis die mense wat behoor dit te beskerm en wildbeskerming by anders aan te moedig.

Soals ons verneem, het die verniettigging van wild deur naturelle 'n ernstige vraagstuk geword in die beskerming van Suidafrikaanse wild. Sal die blanke bevolking dit dan toelaat, dat naturelle wild uitroei, binne en buite die skiettyd, solang nog enige wild oorbly? Is die volk van Suidafrika dan magteloos om die slagting van wild deur naturelle to belet of te beperk? Het die swarte ras daar dan so sterk geword dat hy nie binne redelike perke gehou kan word?

Met al hulle tekortkominge het die volk van die Verenigde State van Amerika nooit toegelaat dat die Indieane hul wild uitroei. Die blanke Amerikaner mag self wel wat roekeloos met die wild omgegaan het, maar hy gaan nie so ver om toe te laat dat die Indiaan op grote skaal en onwettig wild mors.

In Amerika geld nou vry algemeen die beginsel dat 'n Indiaan of andere naturel net so min 'n aangebore reg op die wild van 'n nog woeste land het as op die minerale, waterkragte of bosse. Geen verstandige blanke sal toe laat dat Indiaane of enige ander naturelle bosse of veld afbrand net om wild te dryf of vir hulle plesier. En is die allengs verdwynende voorraad van wild dan minder 'n bate wat aan ons tot bewaring vir die nageslag toevertrou is dan houtbosse? Ek meen van nie!

Die volk van Suidafrika moet ontwaak en doeltreffende stappe neem om die ongeoorloofde doodmaak van wild deur wie ook al, witman of naturel—te keer. Die mors met die eens daar so grootse dierewereld het ver genoeg gegaan!

In Afrika, net soas in Amerika, is daar tal van mense aan wie die voorreg van vry skiet nie toegestaan kan word nie. In Afrika sowel as in Amerika is daar veel boere wat nie die heerlike wilde diere bewonder of bemin voor hulle as vlees gebraai op tafel staan of tot bultong gemaak is. Daar is te veel mense wat roekeloos wild verdelg en wat van geen spaar wil weet solang die wet hulle nie daartoe dwing nie. Ons verneem dat daardie soort mense 'n ware pes geword het vir die wild in Afrika, net soals hulle dit al lang in Amerika was.

Dit is tog nie moontlik dat die oue boere van Transvaal geen sentimentele belang stel in die oorblyfsels van die wildsoorte wat hulle so veel jagplesier en so veel goeie vlees gelewer het in die ou dae van hulle jeug, toen dit in die veld gewemel het van wild!

Dit lyk ook ondenkbaar dat die jonge boere, wat van so veel spannende jagawonture uit die oue tyd gehoor het, nou totaal onverskillig kan wees teenoor die nog weinige oorblywende soorte van groot en klein wild. Hoe staat die jongere boere teenoor die wild-vraagstuk? Wat sal hulle leuse wees: uitroeiing of beskerming? As hulle ten gunste van beskerming is, dan sal op alle plase waar nog enige wild loop, dadelik deurtastende maatreels geneem moet word om daardie weinige oorblyfsels voor verdelging te red.

SLAGTING ONDER DIE WILD IN PORTUGESE GEBIED.

In 1920 en 1921, het sekere dele van die Portugese gebied, wat binne makkelike bereik van Transvaal le,

swaar te lei gehad van jagters wat daar van buite af ingetrek het, gelok deur die drang tot wild-slagting wat in die laaste jare weer herleef is. Volgens berig is daar in Junie 1921 twee groot jagpartye, elk van omtrent tien tot vyftien man met verskeie waens, naby die grens van Rhodesie die Portugese gebied ingetrek. Ongelukking bestaat daar in daardie streek een van die weinige verblyfplekke van die uiterst seldsame inyala in een van die laaste skuilhoeke van Suid Afrika.

Die Portugese stel, jammer genoeg, geen groot belang in hulle dierewereld, en na betaling van die vereiste jagliksensie het die betrokke amptenare daardie jagpartye maar onbemoei laat aangaan soals hulle wou.

Een van ons beriggewers deel ons mee dat een van daardie partye tussen Junie en Augustus 1921, 250 stuks wild geskiet het, hoofsakelik swart-witpense en inyalas, en die ander party het 300 stuks swart-witpense, inyalas en elande geskiet. Die doel van hierdie slagting was in die eerste plek om velle en bultong te kry.

Stel jou nou voor, sulke seldsame wild as swart-witpense en veral inyalas op sulk 'n skaal uit te roei net vir die velle en die bultong.

Met sulk 'n roekeloosheid kan die wildvoorraad onmoontlik lang uithou. En wat bly dan oor vir die komende geslagte?

Is die volk van Suidafrika tevrede met sulke stelselmatige vernieteging van hulle bate, en met die vooruitsig dat dit ongehinder sal voortduur? En as hulle nie tevrede is met sulke uitroeiing uit winsbejag, wat sal hulle *doen* om daaraan 'n einde te maak?

Dit is 'n onbetwisbare feit dat sommige van die mooiste en eigenaardigste wildsoorte van Suid Afrika, soals byvoorbeelt die inyala, vaal reebok en verskeie andere soorte waarskylik binne kort totaal uitgeroei sal wees, tensy

THE SABLE ANTELOPE

One of the handsomest of all African antelopes.
Copied by permission from "The Book of Antelopes" by Philip Lutley Sclater and Oldfield Thomas.

SABLE ANTELOPE [SWART-WITPENS]

Een van die skoonste soorte van Suid Afrikaanse wild.
Geneem met toestemming uit "the Book of Antelopes" deur Philip Lutley Sclater en Oldfield Thomas.

dadelik en deurtanstend gehandel word om hulle te behou vir die dierewereld van hulle land van oorsprong.

As toegelaat word dat hulle verdwyn, sal die volk van Suid Afrika dit net eenmaal berou, en dit sol wees— vir altyd. As daardie soorte eens verdwyn, dan kan hulle nooit teruggebreng word nie. As julle 'n tweede Manchuria wil he, 'n doodse, onaantrekkelike woesteny, laat dit dan maar gaan soals dit nou gaan, dan sal julle die doel spoedig bereik.

Geen soort van dier was ooit te volop om deur die mens uitgeroei te word. Denk aan die lot van die bison en die trekduif in Amerika, en van die opregte kwagga en die vormalige Blauwbok van Suidafrika. Vroeer was daar miljoene van hulle en nou is daar net nog enkele honderde bisons wat met groot moeite en onkoste gespaar word, terwyl die trekduif geheel verdwyn is. Die Kwagga en die Blauwbok is al ook reeds verdwyn.

Met verskeie soorte van die Suidafrikaanse wild sal dit net so gaan tensy strenge voorsorgsmaatreels geneem word.

Gee tog vir julle kinders en kleinkinders ook 'n kans om wild in sy natuurlike staat te sien en nie net in 'n museum.

As die nou heersende omstandighede net nog 'n paar jaar langer duur, dan kan dit noodlottige gevolge he vir verskeie van julle wildsoorte.

Myns insiens is die enige middel om die toestand te red, die absolute verbod vir 'n aantal jare om enige van die skaarsere soorte wild dood te maak.

As 'n wildsoort al byna verdelg is, dan is 'n swakke, ondoelmatige beskerming geheel nutteloos, want dit mislei die publiek om te denk dat die wild behou sal bly, terwyl dit nie die geval is nie.

As 'n meerderheid van die volk van Suidafrika voornemens is om al hulle wild uit te roei, laat hulle dan met ope oge daarmee aangaan. Die wildslagter is bereid om enige diersoort vir die profyt van die dag en die uur uit te roei. Maar sulke mense is gevaarlik vir die samelewing en dit kan nie gedoog word dat hulle gierigheid en vernielsug hulle medemense benadeel.

Wil jy jou seuns en kleinseuns van hulle regmatige aandeel aan julle wild en jagplesier beroof? Wil jy aan jou nageslag 'n land wat soals Manchuria is, 'n troostelose, lewelose woesteny, as erfenis nalaat? Dit kan onmoontlik so wees! Selfs die mees onbedagte man, die begeer dat sy kinders nie te kort gedaan sal word by die verdeling van die skatte van die natuur.

DIE REDDING VAN JULLE WILD IS ELKEEN SE SAAK.

Die wild in 'n staat of provinsie is die eiendom van die hele volk nie van 'n bevoorregte klas nie. Die meerderheid van die volk as 'n geheel moet beslis of sy wild beskerm of uitgeroei moet word.

Reggeaarde, humane mense verset hulle teen onredelike en roekelose verneiteging van wilde diere. Hulle verset hulle veral teen die uitroeiing van waardevolle seldsame soorte. En die meerderheid van die Volk van Suid Afrika is tog reggeaard en humaan, is hulle nie? As die voorbeelde uit die geskiedenis van enige betekenis is, dan moet die volk van Suidafrika nou of wild beskerm, of hulle moet dit maar laat delg word. Op welke van die twee sal die keuze val? Dit lyk my dat die toestand vereis 'n algemene beskerming van alle wild vir omtrent drie jaar van die Zambesi tot by Kaapstad, en niks minder. Daar kan natuurlik voorsiening gemaak word vir die geval van skade aangerig deur wild, by wyse van strenge regulasies, uitgevaardig deur die hoogste gesag. Maar elke

beskuldiging teen wilde diere moet deur goeie getuigenis bewys word voor 'n oordeel van "Skuldig" kan gevel word. Die gevoel van die hele volk moet vir beskerming van wild in beweging gebreng word. Sonder sulk 'n gevoel kan weinig uit—gerig word. Die volk van Suid-afrika is nie net nog op die grens van die beskawing nie. Hulle is al *in* die beskawing en hulle kan daarom heeltemaal goed sonder wild-vlees klaar kom.

Dit is *nou* die tyd om strenge, ingrypende maatreels te neem. Die diersoort wat tot die rand van verdelging gebreng is en waarvan net nog heel weinige eksemplare oor is, die kan byna nooit weer opgekweek word, selfs met die nodige beskerming. Die tyd om te beskerm en op te kweek is solang as daar nog iets oorbly om op te kweek. In hierdie tyd van snel opmekaar volgende gebeurtenisse is dit gevaarlik om lang te wag. Die motorkar is hier, en hy is dodelyker dan selfs die geweer. By die opsoek van wild om dit onder skoot te breng is die motorkar sonder genade.

Handel dus nou, voor dit heeltemaal te laat is.

A PAIR OF NYALAS

'N PAAR NYALES (INYALA BOSBOKKE)

VANISHING SOUTH AFRICAN GAME AND ITS NEED FOR PROTECTION

By A. K. Haagner, Sc.D., F. Z. S., Etc.

Director, National Zoological Gardens of South Africa, Pretoria; President, Transvaal Game Protection Association.

WHEN in New York, in 1920, I was requested to write a short sketch of the more interesting and scarcer forms of game animals found in South Africa, with particular reference to their status at the present time. I do this with all the more pleasure seeing that the request has come from a man who has courageously and consistently fought for the preservation of game animals on sane and common-sense lines.

In South Africa our difficulties appear to be worse than those obtaining in the United States. They have at times appeared to me to be so insurmountable that I have often thought seriously of "throwing up the sponge" and acknowledging myself beaten, but my American friends have been so emphatic in their encouragement that I have been led to continue my efforts. There is, however, one big and fundamental difference between the two countries. America seems to get money together for any serious project in hand, whereas we in South Africa have to go down on bended knees to raise a few pounds for any scientific or non-utilitarian matter.

The Transvaal Game Protection Association is only a small society boasting but few members, and its funds are very meagre, but the Central Executive Committee contains, nevertheless, some very enthusiastic gentlemen who devote much of their spare time to the work of the Association. Amongst these may be mentioned the hard-working Secretary, Major J. C. V. Roos, and Lieut. Colonel H. Bredell, Deputy Commissioner and Secretary

South African Police; Messrs. T. N. de Villiers, A. S. Porter, O. Pirow and A. A. Schoch, of Pretoria, and Messrs. C. A. O. Bain, F. J. Finch-Smith, D. F. Gilfillan and Paul Selby, of Johannesburg. Without the co-operation and assistance of these men I do not know how our Association could continue its work, but we want more help from members, and we want more members as well. The Transvaal Provincial Administration recognizes the Association to a large extent, as its recommendations are followed in the great majority of cases. It also makes a small grant to the funds, for which we are profoundly thankful.

The difficuties in South Africa are:

(a) Our country dwellers have for generations been accustomed to shooting where and when they like, and game restrictions and laws are irksome to them. Poaching on either Government and private grounds, and contravention of the laws are not, apparently, looked upon as crimes.

(b) The enormous extent of territory still unsettled, or but thinly populated, renders detection difficult, and policing insufficient for the needs of the wild life.

(c) The natives, who are born poachers and who by means of snares, traps and crowds of mongrel dogs, destroy annually an enormous number of head of game, chiefly young animals. Certain officials of the Native Affairs Department have been appealed to time and again to try and limit the number of these dogs, or at least to force the natives to conform to the regulations, but thus far without any appreciable result.

It will thus be seen that our difficulties are more than ordinary. Add to the foregoing the onward march of civili-

zation and the continual inroads made upon the game territories, and the reader will begin to realize our discouragement.

I will now endeavor to give a short account of the present status of some of our most valuable big game animals, and their needs for the future.

THE WHITE RHINOCEROS (*Diceros simus*).

The White or Square-mouthed Rhinoceros is today only found within the boundaries of South Africa proper in Zululand.

Some years ago a special reserve was founded in this country for their benefit. This is known as the "Mfolozi Reserve," and is situated in the triangle formed by the junction of the White and Black 'Mfolozi Rivers, and extending westward for about twelve miles—an area of about 75,000 acres. One or two are occasionally found in the vicinity of the Gqokolweni Bush, as they wander southward across the White 'Mfolozi River. There are about thirty of these huge pachyderms left alive in the territory above mentioned, where they exist today by the grace of the Natal Provincial Administration. Whether any will remain after the present generation is doubtful. The white settlers of Zululand (and especially those of the Empangeni settlements) are determined that all the noble creatures in the one-time game paradise—Zululand—shall be exterminated.

The fight grows fiercer every year, and unless the reserves in South Africa are *nationalized*, as they are in North America, we can say good-bye to many beautiful forms. The Provincial Councils leave too much of these matters pertaining to game to their small executive committees, and these may, or may not, contain men interested in the protection of game.

DEAD WHITE RHINOCEROS
Photograph by Herbert Lang. From the Zoological Society Bulletin, New York.

'N DOOI WIT RENOSTER
Foto deur Herbert Lang, geneem uit "The Zoological Society Bulletin, New York."

Recently an enormous drive was carried out under the aegis of the Natal Provincial Administration, and many men from all over the Union took part in the butchery, which extended over a fairly large area in Zululand. It is said that quite a number of these so-called "sportsmen" never had a rifle in their hands before, and the mystery is that more accidents and irregularities did not take place. As it was, four of the rare White Rhinoceros were killed, and the game was scattered all over the country, thereby largely defeating the aims and objects of the drive, which was to rid the area of game and so to try and do away with the "nagana" disease of cattle (i.e., *typanosomiasis*).

One must feel for Major Vaughan-Kirby, F. Z. S., the Game Conservator of Zululand, who has done his uttermost, but who is up against a tough proposition. He is, however, not the man to take opposition lying down, and it is hoped that his energetic protests will bear fruit.

NYALA (*Nyala angasi*).

This beautiful antelope is one of the most localized species we have, so far as distribution is concerned. It is found only in a few well wooded portions of a narrow strip of country along the east coast, from Zululand to Gazaland in Portuguese East Africa. In the latter country they are, however, becoming more scarce every year, owing to the poaching which the Portuguese authorities seem powerless to prevent.

In Zululand possibly about a thousand at the outside remain alive today. The principle stronghold is the Mkuzi Game Reserve. The only place south of the Mkuzi River where they are found is the 'Sipicayi Bush at the northern extremity of False Bay. These animals, however, as a rule carry poor heads, and Major Kirby thinks that native trapping and indiscriminate shooting will soon exterminate the species. In the Mkuzi Reserve they are

numerous, and numbers are also still found in all suitable localities (i. e., bush country outside the actual sandveld) north of the Mkuzi, throughout the Ubombo and Ingwavuma divisions of Zululand.

This antelope is of a shy, retiring nature and inhabits almost impenetrable thickets, so that given a fair chance it should not be in any danger of becoming exterminated. The attitude of the authorities of the Native Affairs Department in Natal is, however, apparently one utterly lacking in sympathy for these beautiful creatures. North of Zululand, Nyala were common at Matope, south of Delgoa Bay, but are getting scarcer every year. A few still linger in the bush near Lourenco Marquez, and some are found also in isolated patches north of this place.

There is also a small territory on the Inyamapuzi River in Gorongoza, north of Beira, inhabited by these antelope, and another north of the Zambesi in British Nyasaland. This is the northern limit of their range.

THE BONTEBOK (*Damaliscus pygargus*).

This rare antelope is the southern relative of the Blesbok (*D. albifrons*) and *only about 200 are left alive today.* These are strictly preserved by the Cape Provincial Administration and by their owners, as they exist in a semi-domesticated condition.

Herds are to be found on four farms in the Bredasdorp district and a few on three farms in the Swellendam district; and had it not been for the praiseworthy efforts of the original owners—the Van der Byls and Albertyns—this animal would no doubt belong to the past, in company with the extinct Bluebuck and Quagga.

The Bontebok is Royal Game and may only be shot during the open season. The number is limited to 12½ per cent and is controlled by the issue of permits as rec-

ommended by the local magistrates. The license to shoot Royal Game costs three pounds for one season for persons other than landowners, domiciled in the Province, and twenty-five pounds for those not living in the Province.

THE MOUNTAIN ZEBRA (*Hippotigris zebra*).

This animal was the first species of zebra to be made known to science, and in common with Grevy's Zebra of East Africa is characterized by its assinine appearance, in opposition to the equine build of the Burchelline Zebras.

It inhabits the mountainous country of the Central plateau of Cape Province, and localized in four districts of the Province, viz., George (4 farms), 330; Oudtshoorn (3 farms), 50; Sutherland (1 farm), 20, and a few in the Cradock district, making a total of not much more than 400 individuals left alive in the Cape Colony today.

Mountain zebras are allowed to be captured only under exceptional circumstances, and as their capture is attended by a certain amount of risk to both horse and rider the price has risen from fifty pounds to sixty-five pounds, according to the will of the seller. They have to be galloped down and owing to the rough nature of the country they inhabit, few men will undertake the job. A different subspecies (*H. hartmannae*) inhabits the South West Protectorate.

There are several other species of antelope which are becoming scarce, such as the Southern Eland, the Black Wildebeest, the Vaal Rhebok, the Grijsbok, and the Southern Oribi.

There is a reserve, known as the Giants Castle Reserve, for the southern Eland on the slopes of the Drakensberg Range in Natal, and there are a few herds in the Kalahari and in that portion of southern Rhodesia bordering on the

Bechuanaland protectorate. There are also a fair number in Portuguese Southeast Africa.

The Black Wildebeest has practically ceased to exist as a really wild animal, being found today only upon a number of fenced farms, principally in the Winburg, Kroonstad and Hoopstad Districts of the Orange Free State. A few are located on one or two farms of the North-Central Cape Province and a few in the Bloemhof district of the Transvaal.

The Vaal Rhebok was at one time common in all the mountainous or hilly regions of the country, especially on the Drakensberg, but has become very scarce, so much so that they have lately been protected by law.

The Grysbok is only found in the southwestern portion of the Cape Province, and on account of its fondness for the grape vine, is not loved by the Cape wine farmer.

The Southern Oribi is getting very scarce, and owing to its resemblance to the common Steinbok is frequently shot, notwithstanding the fact that it has for many years been in the protected list in the Transvaal. However, as the animal has a pitch-black tail as against the white one of the Steinbok, it would appear that gross negligence or deliberate contravention of the game laws would account for more Oribi being shot than genuine accidental mistakes.

NYALA, INYALA OR ANGAS ANTELOPE
Now threatened with extermination. From a water color drawing by Norman Lighton.

NYALA, INYALA OR ANGAS WILDSOORT
Wat nou gevaarloop van totale exterminasie. Van 'n waterkleur tekening deur Norman Lighton.

DIE VERDWYNENDE SUIDAFRIKAANSE WILD EN DIE NOODSAKELIKHEID ON DIT TE BESKERM

Deur A. K. Haagner, Sc.D., F.Z.S. ens.

Direkteur van die Nasionale Dieretuin van Suidafrika, Pretoria; President van die Transvaalse Wildbeskermings-Vereniging.

TOE ek in 1920 in New York was, werd ek versoek om 'n korte skets te skrywe oor die meer interessante en skaarse wildsoorte van Suidafrika, met besondere vermelding van hulle tenewoordige stand. Ek doen dit met des te groter plesier omdat die versoek uitging van 'n man wat met moed en volharding gestrij het vir die beskerming van wild op 'n gesonde, verstandige manier.

In Suidafrika skyn onse moeilikhede groter te wees dan in die Verenigde State. Die moeilikhede het vir mij partymaal so onoorkomelik gelijk, dat ik dikwels ernstig daaraan gedenk het om die saak maar te laat vaar en te erken dat ik die onder—spit gedelf had, maar mij Amerikaanse vriende het mij so dringend aangemoedig dat ik beweeg werd om mij poginge in die rigting voort te set. Maar daar is een grote grondverskil tussen die twee lande. Dit lyk of Amerika vir enige ernstige onderneming geld bymekaar kan kry, terwyl ons hier in Suidafrika op ons kniee moet smeek vir 'n paar pond vir enige doel van wetenskappelike aard, of wat geen materiele voordeel oplewer nie.

Die Transvaalse Wildbeskermings-vereniging is maar 'n kleine genootskap met 'n geringe ledetal en swakke fondse, maar op die Sentrale Bestuur sit desniettemin manne wat veel van hulle vrye tyd bestee aan die werk van die Vereniging. Tot hulle mag gereken word die

hard-werkende Sekretaris, Majoor J. C. V. Roos, Lt. Kolonel H. Bredell, Onder-Kommissaris en Sekretaris, Suidafrikaanse Politie; die here T. N. de Villiers, A. S. Porter, O. Pirow, en A. A. Schoch, van Pretoria; en die here C. A. O. Bain, F. J. Finch-Smith, D. F. Gilfillan, en Paul Selby, van Johannesburg. Sonder die medewerking en hulp van hierdie here weet ik nie hoe onse Vereniging sy werksaamhede sou kan voortset; maar ons wil graag meer hulp van die ander lede he, en ons wil vooral meer lede he. Die Transvaalse Provinsiale Administrasie erken onse Vereniging en die aanbevelings van die Vereniging word in die meeste gevalle ook uitgevoer. Die Administrasie gee ook 'n kleine bydrage tot ons fondse, waarvoor ons van harte dankbaar is.

Die moeilikhede in Suidafrika is die volgende:

(a) Onse plattelands-bewoners is vir vele gesagte gewoon om te skiet net waar en wanneer hulle wil, en alle beperkinge en wette ter beskerming van die wild, die vind hulle hinderlik. Steel van wild, sowel op Staatsgrond as ok op private grond en 'n oortreding van die wet, die word blykbaar nie as 'n misdaad beskou nie.

(b) Die reusagtige uitgestrektheid van die nog onbewoonde of slegs dun-bewoonde streke maak dit moeilik om oortredinge te ontdek en onmoontlik om voldoende polisiebeampte beskikbaar te stel om die wilde diere te beskerm.

(c) Die naturelle, wat gebore wild-diewe is en wat deur wippe, slagysters, en honde ieder jaar 'n groot aantal stuks wild, meestal jong bokkies, dood maak. Keer op keer word daar 'n beroep gedoen op amptenare van die Department van Naturelle-sake, om te probeer om die getal van kafferhonde te beperk, of tenminste om die naturelle te dwing om hulle te hou binne die regulasies vir hondeliksensies, maar sover sonder praktiese gevolge.

Mens kan dus sien dat ons met meer dan gewone moeilikhede to kampe het. Bij die reeds aangehaalde moet nog gevoeg word die uitbreiding van die beskawing en die voortdurende inkrimping van die wild-veld, en dan sal die leser onse ontmoediging begryp.

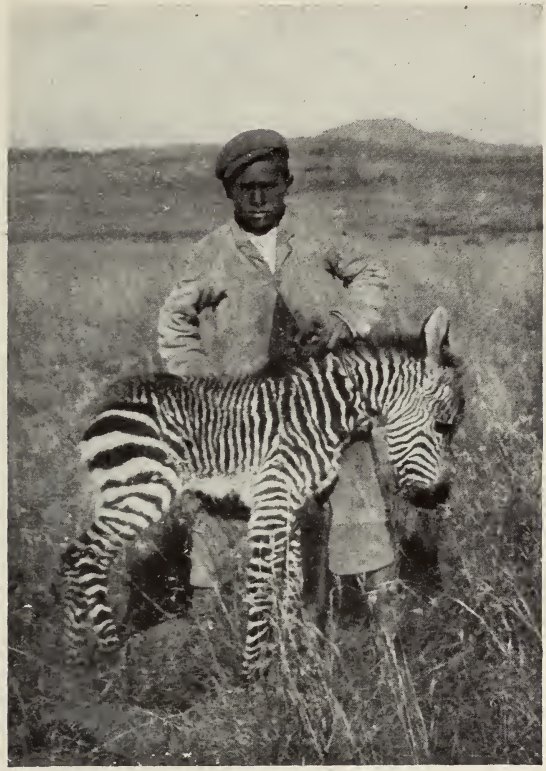
Ik sal nou probeer om 'n korte oorsig te gee van die teenwoordige stand van party van onse meest seldsame wildsoorte, en van die noodsakelikheid om hulle voor uitsterwe te behoed.

DIE WIT RENOSTER (*Diceros simus*).

Die wit renoster word vandag in Suidafrika net nog in Soeloeland gevinde.

Enige jare gelede werd daar 'n spesiale reserwe vir hulle ingestel. Dit word die "Mfolozi"—Reserwe genoem en is gelee in die driehoek gevorm deur die Swart en Wit Mfolozi-riviere. Dit loop tot omtrent twaalf mijl westelik van die sameloop van hierdie en beslaat omtrent 75,000 akkers. Enkelemale trek een of twee riviere wit renosters suidelik deur die wit Mfolozi-Rivier na die streek bij die Gqokolweni-Bos. Daar lewe vandag alles tesame omtrent nog dertig van daardie reusagtige diere in genoemde streek, waar hulle afhankelik is van die genade van die Natalse Provinsiale Administrasie. Dit lijk twyfelagtig of daar van hulle sal oorbly na onse teenwoordige geslagie! Die blanke settelaars in Soeloeland (en veral die van die Empangeni—Nedersetting) lyk vasbeslote om al die edele diere in die voormaalse wildparadys-Soeloeland-te verdelg!

Die stryd word elke jaar moeiliker en tensy die wildreserwes *genasionaliseer* word, soals in Noord-Amerika, kan ons vaarwel se aan verskeie pragtige diersoorte. Die Provinsiale Rade laat te veel die wildaangeleenhede oor aan hulle kleine uitvoerende komitees, en die lede van die komitees mag al dan nie belang stel in die beskerming van wild.



MOUNTAIN ZEBRA COLT
'N JONG BERG SEBRA

Onlangs werd 'n grote dryfjag op tou geset onder toesig van die Natalse Provinsiale Administrasie, en tal van mense uit alle dele van die Unie het deelgeneem aan die slagting wat oor 'n tamelike groot deel van Soeloeland plaasgevind het. Dit word vertel dat heel partij van hierdie sogenoemde "jagters" nog nooit van te vore 'n geweer in hulle hand gehad het nie, en dit is 'n wonder dat daar nie meer ongelukke en ongereeldhede plaasgevind het nie. Met dit al werd vier van daardie skaarse wit renosters gedood en die wild oor die hele land versprij, waardeur die oogmerk van die dryfjag grotendeels teniet gedaan werd, namelik om daardie streek skoon te maak van wild en op die manier te probeer om die "nagana"—siekte in vee (*trypanosomiasis*) te keer.

Mens kan nie anders as simpatiseer met Majoor Vaughan-Kirby, F. Z. S., die Wildopsigter in Soeloeland, wat sij uiterste bes gedaan het, maar wat teenoor 'n

byna hopelose taak staat. Hij is egter nie die man om gedwee alles oor hom te laatgaan, en dit is te hope dat sy onvermoeide teenstand nog vrug sal dra.

NYALA (*Nyala angasi*).

Hierdie pragtige anteloop is een van die mees gelokaliseerde wildsoorte, wat betref sy verspreiding. Hy is net te vinde in 'n paar bossige dele van 'n smalle strook langs die ooskus, van Soeloeland tot in Gazaland in Portugees Oos-Afrika. In laasgenoemde gebied word hulle egter iedere jaar skaarser deur wilddiewe wat die Portugese authoriteite blykbaar nie kan keer nie.

In Soeloeland is daar vandag nog uiters duisend stuks. Hulle vernaamste verblyfplek daar is in die 'Mkuzi-Reserwe. Die enigste plek suidelik van die 'Mkuzi-Rivier waar hulle voorkom is die Sipicayi-Bos, aan die noordelikste punt van Fals-Baai. Maar die Nyalas in daardie streek het maar swakke horings en Majoor Kirby is van oordeel dat kaffer-wilddiewe en blanke jagters spoedig die soort wild daar sal uitroei. In die 'Mkuzi-Reserwe is hulle talryker en heel party kom ook nog voor in alle geskikte plekke (ni. boswereld buite die eintlike sandveld) noordelik van die 'Mkuzi orals in die distrikte Ubombo en Ingwavuma in Soeloeland.

Hierdie bok is sku en versigtig en hy hou in digte bosse, sodat daar geen gevaar vir sy voortbestaan behoor te wees as hy net 'n kans kry. Die houding van die amptenare in die Department van Naturellesake in Natal is egter blykbaar heeltemaal onverskillig teenoor hierdie pragtige diere. Noordilik van Soeloeland was Nyalas vroeer volop by Matope, suidelik van Delagoa-Baai, maar hulle word daar elke jaar skaarser. 'N paar hou nog uit in die bosse by Lourenco Marques en enkele kom ook nog voor hier en daar noordelik van genoemde plek.

DEAD SPRINGBUCK AND BLESBOK
Two hours' killing for sport, with rifle and automobile. Perfectly legal, but exterminatory.

DOOI SPRINGBOKKE EN BLESBOKKE
'n Gevolg van slegs twee uur jag. Helemaal wettelik maar nogtans uitroeiend.

Daar is ook nog 'n kleine streek langs die Inyamapuzi-Rivier in Gorongoza, noordelik van Beira, wat deur hierdie wildsoort bewoon word, en dan nog 'n ander streek noordelik van die Zambesi in Brits Nyassaland. Dit is die noordelikste plekke waar die Nyala voorkom.

DIE BONTEBOK (*Damaliscus pygargus*).

Hierdie skaarse bok is die suidelike neef van die blesbok (*Damaliscus albifrons*), en daar is vandag net nog 200 van hulle oor! Hulle word streng beskerm deur die Kaapse Provinsiale Administrasie en deur hulle eienaars, want hulle loop daar in 'n half-makke toestand.

Troppies kom voor op vier plase in die distrik Bredasdorp en 'n paar op drie plase in die distrik Swellendam. Had die oorspronkelik eienaars van hierdie plase—die van

der Byls en Albertyns—hulle nie met prysenswaardige ywer opgepas dan sou hierdie dier nou al seker aan die verlede toebehoor.

DIE BERGZEBRA (*Hippotigris zebra*).

Hierdie dier was die eerste soort van zebra waarmee die wetenskap kennis gemaak het. Hy het die eigenaardigheid saam met Grevy's zebra in Oos-Afrika, dat hy meer op 'n esel (donkie) lky, terwyl die verskillende soorte van Burchell's zebras meer so's 'n perd gebau is.

Hy bewoon die bergagtige streek van die sentrale plato van die Kaap-Provinsie en hij is beperk tot vier destrikte, nl. George (vier plase), 330 stuks: Oudshoorn (drie plase) 50 stuks; Sutherland (1 plaas) 20 stucks, en 'n paar in die distrik Cradock—alles tesame dus nie veel meer as 400 stuks wat vandag nog in die Kaap-Provinsie oorbly.

Bergzebras mag net onder besondere omstandighede gevang word, en dar hulle nie sonder gevaar vir die ruiter sowel as vir die perd gevang kan word, het hulle waarde opgegaan van £50 tot £65 volgens die prys wat die verkoper vasstel. Hulle most te perd ingejaag word, en wegens die bergagtige streek waar hulle bly is daar maar min mense wat die werk wil ondereem. 'N ander subsoort van die bergzebra (Hippotigris hartmannae) kom in die Suid-Wes-Protekteraat voor.

Daar is nog verskeie andere soorte van antelope wat skaars word, soals die suidelike (ongestreepte) eland, die swart wildebeeste, die Vaal reebok, die grysbok en die suidilike oribi.

Vir die suidelike of ongestreepte eland bestaat daar 'n reserwe, genoem die "Giants Castle Reserve" aan die hange van die Drakensberge in Natal, en daar loop nog 'n paar troppe van hierdie wildsoort in die Kalahari en in

die gedeelte van Suid-Rhodesie wat aan die Beetshoeana-land-Protektoraat gerns. Die dier is ook te vinde in Portugees-oosafrika.

Die swart wildebees het feitelik opgehou om te bestaan as 'n regtig wilde dier, daar hy vandag net nog voorkom op 'n paar omheinde plase, veral in die distrikte Winburg, Kroonstad en Hoopstad van die Oranje-Vrigstaat. Enkele loop op een of twee plase van die Noord-Sentrale deel van die Kaap Provinsie en 'n paar in die distrik Bloemhof in Transvaal.

Die vaal rhebok was vroeer volop in al die beragtige of heuvelagtige streke van die land, veral op die Drakensbergre, maar hij is nou so skaars dat hy deur die wet beskerm word.

Die grijsbok kom net voor in die suid-westelike gedeelte van die Kaap-Provinsie, en wegens sy voorliefde vir winggerd-lote hou die wynboere van die Kaap nie van hom nie.

Die suidelike oribi word baie skaars en deurdat hij 'n bietjie op 'n gewone steenbok lyk, word by dikwels geskiet, hoewel hy al vele jare lang op die lys van beskermde wild staan. Daar hierdie bok 'n pikswarte stert het, terwijl die steenbok s'n wit is, lyk dit my dat meer oribis geskeit word deur growe nalatigheid of 'n opsettelike oortreding van die wild-wet, dan deur werkelike vergissing.

WILD ANIMAL EXTERMINATION, PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE

By WILLIAM T. HORNADAY

THIS is no time for cheerful optimism regarding the future of any killable wild animal species. Either in South Africa or in North America such optimism easily can be as deadly as long-range rifles and smokeless powder. It is very, very easy to kill fine game faster than it breeds; and this spells extermination, unless the killing is stopped in time.

It is a shocking thing to learn that of the *200* remnant Bontebok now remaining alive in South Africa, 25 may be shot by hunters each year. It is "shocking," because some day it may be easy for some evil influence to *wipe out the remainder!*

Now, as a matter of fact, the people of South Africa hold the pitiful remnant of that beautiful antelope species IN TRUST for science, for the general public and for posterity. Ethically it is a crime to shoot one of those animals for sport, or for meat, so long as the total number of living bonteboks remains under 5,000 head. In America, with 7,500 prong-horned antelopes remaining, all killing has long been stopped, and frantic efforts now are being made to make new antelope preserves to start new herds and bring the species back to a safe basis.

If the people of South Africa permit any more of their fine big game species to be exterminated, afterward they will regret it only once, and that will be FOREVER!

The only real standard for judging the future is by the past. Without going back into history beyond what we may call the day before yesterday, let us see what the world has lost in truly great species of wild animals by recent exterminations. Let us consider a few examples from our own times; and we will begin with the latest calamity.

THE EUROPEAN BISON
Now believed to be totally extinct in a wild state.
Copied from "Wild Oxen, Sheep and Goats of All Lands" by R. Lydekker, by permission of Rowland Ward, Ltd.

DIE EUROPEESE BUFFEL
Hierde diersoort is totaal uitgeroei, waar hul gevind werd, in 'n wilde streek van Rusland.
Geneem uit "Wild Oxen, Sheep and Goats of All Lands" deur R. Lydekker met toestemming van Rowland Ward, Bpkt.

EUROPE: *The European Bison.*

Today (July, 1922), all the world believes that in south-western Russia and in the Caucasus Mountains a few herds of the great European Bison still remain. But as yet the world has not had time to learn the final news.

It is now our painful duty to inform the world that the European Bison is today extinct in a wild state. A trustworthy Russian authority states that "There is no longer any reason to hope or to believe that any wild bison of Europe now remain alive. All were destroyed during and immediately after the war."

A very few individuals remain in captivity in England, and two in Holland, but there are none whatever in America.

And thus, in spite of all our efforts in the conservation of wild life, and the saving of species from extinction, the most notable wild animal of Europe has gone down to oblivion during the past eight years and practically before our eyes!

ASIA: *David's Manchurian Deer.*

In 1900, during the Boxer rebellion in China, the Boxer rebels killed the last remaining deer of the most interesting deer species of China, known as Père David's Deer. The home of the species was northern Manchuria, and previous to 1900 the Chinese had killed all of them save the 200 head that lived in an imperial park south of Pekin. That remnant the Boxer soldiers killed for food.

In Asia the species is totally extinct. In England, one small herd still exists, at Woburn Park, in the possession of the Duke of Bedford.

NORTH AMERICA: *The American Bison.*

Between the years 1870 and 1885, in the United States and Canada the great crime of the American Bison was perpetrated.

Four million of those splendid and valuable animals were wickedly and foolishly slaughtered, and not one-fiftieth of their meat was saved.

PÈRE DAVID'S DEER, OF MANCHURIA
Now totally extinct in a wild state, and nearly extinct in captivity.
Copied from "The Deer of All Lands" by R. Lydekker, by permission of Rowland Ward, Ltd.

DIE "PÈRE DAVID'S DEER" VAN MANCHURIA
Hierde diersoort is totaal uitgeroei behalwe 'n paar oorblijfsels in dieretuine.
Geneem uit "The Deer of All Lands" deur R. Lydekker, met toestemming van Rowland Ward, Bpkt.

It was a colossal disgrace to the two nations involved, and the shame of it never can be wiped off the pages of history. During the past twenty years the people of the United States and Canada have spent huge sums in trying

to make some atonement for that slaughter by establishing herds of bison in fenced ranges, in order to save the species to posterity by breeding in captivity. All this is based on sentiment only, for there is no effort to produce cash profits.

These efforts have been very successful, and so many bison have been bred that the species is now safe from extinction. As a wild animal, however, only two small bands remain, both carefully protected at all times.

SOUTH AFRICA: *The Quagga and Blaubok.*

We will not attempt to write for the people of South Africa the sad history of the total extermination of the two fine species named above. The Quagga, most interesting of all the horse-like animals of Africa, and once very abundant throughout Cape Colony and Natal, totally disappeared about fifty years ago, and what is worse, only eighteen mounted specimens are to be found in all the museums of the world. It was slaughtered by sportsmen as "game," and by the Dutch and British farmers.

The Blaubok, or Bluebok, was a big antelope that resembled the roan antelope of today. This fine species totally disappeared in 1800, and so quickly was it destroyed (by the farmers of Cape Colony) that the world did not know it was in danger until it had *gone!* Only eight mounted specimens are in existence, all of them in Europe, where few of the people of Africa ever will see them.

SOUTH AFRICA'S ANIMALS TODAY.

And now, what shall we say to the people of South Africa regarding their wild animals that now are on the brink of extermination? We know that already many gallant and patriotic land-owners have put forth fine efforts, and have already accomplished much, for the saving

THE BLUE-BOK (HIPPOTRAGUS LEUCOPHÆUS)
Totally exterminated about one hundred and twenty years ago. Reproduced from "The Book of Antelopes" by P. L. Sclater and Oldfield Thomas.

DIE BLAUBOK
Helemaal uitgeroei ongeveer 120 jaar gelede. Geneem uit "The Book of Antelopes" deur P. L. Sclater en Oldfield Thomas.

of South Africa's finest animals. The honor roll of true conservators is already of admirable length. We know that but for them all the Mountain Zebras, Bonteboks, Blesboks, White Rhinoceroses and Elephants of South Africa now would be as dead as Julius Caesar.

For the future, more determined efforts and greater sacrifices, both by individuals and the state, are necessary to carry into effect the measures that alone will insure the remnants of game from total disappearance. A great deal of the annual shooting now in progress must be stopped. New preserves and new breeding herds of game must be established. In a word, the government of the Union of South Africa, and private organizations and individuals without number, must unite in stronger measures for wild life preservation.

THE SPECIES MOST IN DANGER.

Judged by all available evidence, the following are the species most in need of increase:

The White Rhinoceros	Increase from 26 up to 200
Bontebok	Increase from 200 up to 5,000
Mountain Zebra	Increase from 400 up to 1,000
Roan Antelope	Increase from 1,000 up to 5,000
Nyala, or Angas Antelope	Increase from 1,000 up to 5,000
Black Rhinoceros	Increase up to 1,000
Eland	Increase up to 2,500
Vaal Rhebok	Increase up to 5,000
Grysbok	Increase up to 5,000
Southern Oribi	Increase up to 5,000
Sable Antelope	
Kudu	

AN HONOR ROLL OF WILD ANIMAL PROTECTORS

As soon as practicable, there should be prepared and published an honor roll containing the names of South Africans who have done most for the preservation of the important wild life of Africa south of the territory formerly owned by Germany. It is desirable that the world at large should know the names of the men who already deserve the thanks of the public for the preservation of the mountain zebra, bontebok, nyala, rhinoceros, kudu, eland and sable antelope.

DIE UITROEI VAN WILD IN DIE VERLEDE, TEENWOORDIG, EN IN DIE TOEKOMS

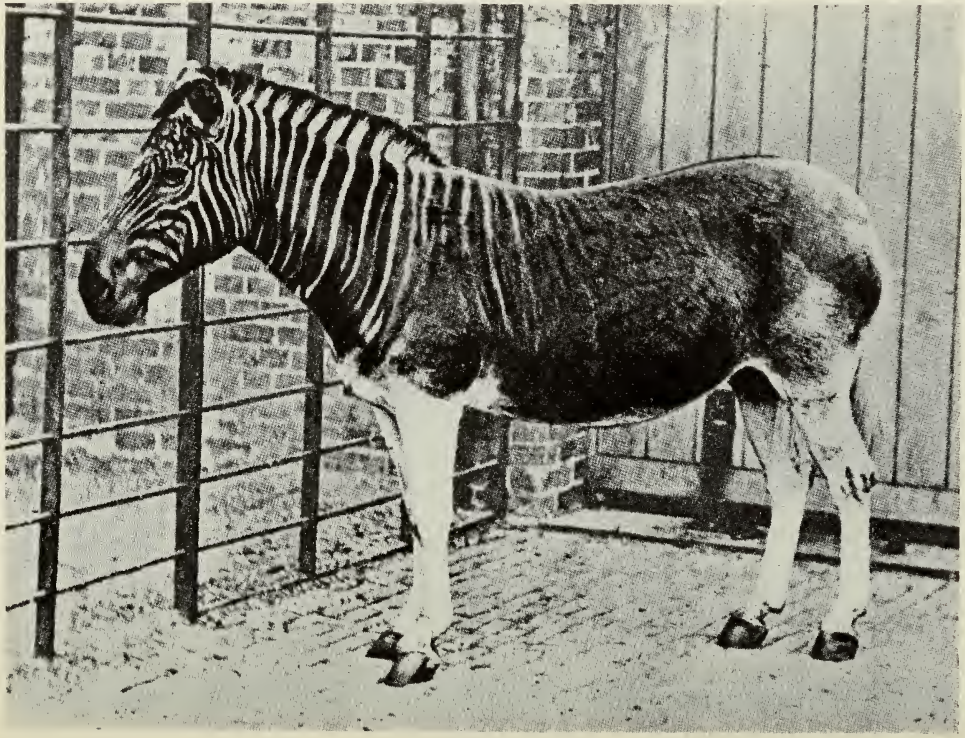
Deur William T. Hornaday.

Ons bevind ons nou in 'n tijd waar die voortbestaan van wild bloot gestel is aan baie gevare. Dit is eenmaal 'n feit dat in beide Zuid Afrika en Noord Amerika die dag aangebreek het vir 'n ernstige oorweging van hierde saak. Elkeen weet dat wild teenwoordig veel vinnigter uitgeroei word dan dit vermeerder. Dit spreek dus vanself, dat hierde toestand van sake sal eindig met totale exterminasie van alle wild.

Ons betreur die feit dat van die 200 oorblijvende Bontbokke in Suid Afrika ongeveer 25 elke jaar deur jagters dood geskiet word. En dit doen ons leed om te dink dat die gevolg sal wees totale exterminasie. Hierdie skone oorblijfsel van Bontbokke is onder beskerming van die volk van Zuid Afrika en solang die getal onder 5,000 blij is dit 'n sedelike oortreding om een daarvan dood te skeit.

In Amerika is daar nou sowat 7,500 Amerikaanse bokke ("prong-horned antilope") na die uitroei daarvan vir 'n lang tijd reeds verbode is, en daar word berhaalde poginge aangewend om die getal te vermeerder.

Die verlede is die vondament waarop die toekoms gebouw word. Wat ons in die verlede gedaan het sal in 'n sekere mate bepaal wat ons in die toekoms gaan doen. Maar ons mag wens dat dit nie die geval sal wees met ons wild. In blik in die jongste verlede is voldoende om ons 'n idee to gee van die uitroei van sommige van ons belangrikste wild.



THE QUAGGA

Totally exterminated about fifty years ago.

From photographs by York & Son.

Copied from "South African Mammals" by Alwin K. Haagner.

DIE KWAGGA

'otaal uitgeroei reeds 50 jaar gelede.

Van 'n portret deur York & Son geneem uit "South African Mammals" deur Alwin K. Haagner.

EUROPA. *Die Europeese Buffel.*

Daar bestaan vandaag die totale eroniese gedagte dat in Zuidwestelike Rusland en in die Caucasus berge nog 'n paar troppe groot Europese Buffels is, Maar dit doen ons leed om die volgende van 'n goeie Russiese autoriteit te verneem: "Ons het g'n reg om te glo dat daar nog Europese buffels leef, daar almal gedurende en onmiddellik na die wereld oorlog uitgeroei is." Daar is egter 'n paar in Hollandse en Engelse dieretuine maar g'n enkel een in Amerika. Tenspijte van herhaalde poginge van beskerming is hierde diersoort vandaag helemaal uitgeroei.

ASIE. *Die sogenaamde "Davids Manchurian Deer."*

Gedurende die Boxer Rebellie het die Boxers die 200 "Davids Manchurian Deer" wat oorgeblij het in die imperiale park van Zuid Pekin, uitgeroei. Daar is dus g'n enkel van hierde diersoort te vind in geheel Asie. In Engeland is daar nog 'n klein klompie in Woburn Park wat aan die Duke of Bedford behoort.

NOORD AMERIKA: *Die Amerikaanse Buffel.*

Die Noord Amerikaanse Buffel is tussen 1870 en 1885 totaal uitgeroei. Vier miljoen van hierde Buffels is toe dood geskeit en skaars een vijftiende van die vlijs is gebruik. Dit is 'n skandvlek in die geskiedenis van die twee Noord Amerikaanse volke wat nooit uitgewis kan word. Gedurende die afgelope 20 jaar het Kanada en die Verenigde State groot somme geld bestee om grond aftekomp waarop veel buffels geteel word. Hierdie poginge is 'n gevolg van sentiment en nie van profijt. Op die wijse het die getal buffels so aangegroei dat daar nou g'n gevaar bestaan van totale exterminasie. Slegs op twee plekke is daar nog opregte wilde buffels.

Hul voortbesten is ok verseker daar hul onder die strengste beskerming staan.

SUID AFRIKA: *Die Kwagga en Blaubok.*

Ons sal nie trag om in sonderhede te tree van die geskiedenis van die uitroei van Kwagga. Die quagga is die uiteressantste van sij soort. Reeds 50 jaar gelede het hul totaal verdwijn in Zuid Afrika, en dit is te betreure dat daar slegs 18 van hierde diersoort in al die museums van de wereld te sien is.

DIE BLAUBOK. lijk baie soas die Baster-Gemsbok van vandaag. Hierde skone wildsoort het reeds in 1800 verdwijn. Hul is so gou deur die Kolonialers uitgeroei dat dit te laat bekend geraak het dat hul in gevaar was. Slegs 8 hiervar is te sien in Europeese museums waar min Suid Afrikaners hul ooit sal sien.

SUID AFRIKAANSE WILDE DIERE VANDAAG.

Die vraag word nou gestel: Wat behoort ons vandaag aan die Afrikaanse volk te seh met betrekking tot die uitroei van wild? Dit is ons 'n welbekende feit, hoe sommige Boere reeds edele poginge gemaak het tot beskerming van Suid Afrika se wild. Die ererol van hierde ware beskermers is reeds groot en dit is 'n gevolg van veel poginge dat die volgende diere nog nie uitgeroei is: Bergsebras, Bontbokke, Blesbokke, Wit Renosters en Olifante. Hierde en alle andere diere kan beskerm word, maar dit eis saamwerk van individu en staat. Hierde verenigde poginge kan die exterminasie van wild voorkom. Nieuwe spaarkampe behoor gemakt te word en nieuwe aanteelklompé moet begin word. Dit meen die regering, die volk en private organisasies moet saamwerk vir die beskerming van wild.

DIE WILD WAT DIE MEESTE IN GEVAAR IS EN WAT BEHOOR TE VERMEERDER WORD.

Wit Renosters	Vermeerder van 26 tot 200
Bontbokke	Vermeerder van 200 tot 5,000
Bergsebras	Vermeerder van 400 tot 1,000
Baster-Gemsbok	Vermeerder van 1,000 tot 5,000
Nyala	Vermeerder van 1,000 tot 5,000
Swart Renosters	Vermeerder tot 1,000
Elande	Vermeerder tot 2,500
Vaal Reebokke	Vermeerder tot 5,000
Grijsbokke	Vermeerder tot 5,000
Suidelike Oribis	Vermeerder tot 5,000
Swart-witpens	
Koedoes	

'N ERELOL VIR BESKERMERS VAN WILD.

Daar behoort so gou mokelik 'n erelijs saamgestel te word van die persone wat veel gedoen het tot beskerming van wild in Zuid Afrika. Dit is nie minder dan reg dat die wereld weet wie hul is.

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